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High molecular weight polyimides with improved properties.

(57)

High molecular weight polyimides are formed by polycondensation of 2,2-bis(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane or 2,2-bis(3-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane with one or more of bis-(3,4 dicarboxyphenyl) ether dianhydride; 3,3', 4,4' benzophenone tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride; 3,3', 4,4' diphenyl tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride and 2,2-bis(3,4 dicarboxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane dianhydride. Generally, the polymers of the present invention are characterized by a molecular weight of more than about 90,000.

EP 0 354 361 A1

HIGH MOLECULAR WEIGHT POLYIMIDES WITH IMPROVED PROPERTIES

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates generally to polyimides and more specifically to polyimides containing hexafluoroisopropylidene linkages.

BACKGROUND ART

Polyimides in general are well known in the art to be useful for high temperature applications, since they have a glass transition temperature of about 300 degrees Celsius and above. Such polymers may be prepared in any number of ways, perhaps the most common method being a two-step process including reacting a dianhydride such as pyromellitic dianhydride (PMDA) with a diamine to form a soluble polyamic acid which is then cyclized, thermally or by chemical means to form a polyimide.

Such procedures have been employed in connection with fluorinated polyimides as shown, for example, in U.S. Patent No. 3,356,648 to Rogers. Example 11 of the '648 patent discloses a method of preparing a polyimide from 2,2-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane dianhydride and 2,2-bis(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane. Equimolar amounts of the diamine and dianhydride are stirred together in dioxane for about eighteen hours at room temperature to form a polyamic acid. To the polyamic acid is added acetic anhydride and a minor amount of beta-picoline. After stirring for about 15 minutes, without cooling, the mixture is poured onto a glass plate to form a gel film. The gel film is heated in an oven at 120°C for twelve hours, then heated two more hours at 250°C to form a polyimide film. The polyimide film thus produced is reportedly soluble in chloroform, benzene, dioxane and acetone.

Other fluorinated polyimides are disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 3,959,350 to Rogers. In Example I of the '350 patent, a fluorinated polyimide is prepared by mixing equimolar amounts of the 2,2-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane dianhydride and 4,4'-diaminodiphenyl ether in dimethylacetamide under a nitrogen atmosphere at room temperature. The intermediate polyamic acid is converted to the corresponding polyimide by adding beta-picoline and acetic anhydride.

Fluorinated polyimides prepared as above do not have the desired properties in terms of molecular weight, color and other parameters required for many applications and thus further work has been done in this field. For instance, in U.S. Patent No. 4,645,824 to Landis et al., there is disclosed and claimed a method of preparing high molecular weight fluorinated polyimides prepared by way of cresol solution. In the '824 patent, a method of preparing polyimides is described including the steps of step wise mixing equimolar amounts of 2,2-bis(3,4-dicarboxyphenyl) hexafluoroisopropylidene bis(phthalic dianhydride) and 2,2-bis(3-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane in cresol at room temperature. The mixture is heated to about 215°C Celsius for one hour to yield polyimide of molecular weight up to about 35,000, reportedly soluble in dimethylacetamide.

The above noted polymers, while exhibiting the temperature performance characteristic of polyimides, do not exhibit the properties desired in many end-uses.

It is accordingly an object of the invention to produce fluorinated polyimide compositions exhibiting superior performance in terms of mechanical properties, thermal stability, low dielectrics, optical properties, and other, more uniform characteristics.

Another object of the invention is to achieve shaped articles of suitable properties for end uses in demanding environments.

Still further objects and advantages of the present invention will become readily apparent from the following description and claims.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

The present invention is directed to certain high molecular weight polyimide compositions; specifically polyimide condensation products of either 2,2-bis(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane or 2,2-bis(3-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane with one or more of a dianhydride with a diary nucleus selected from the group consisting of bis-(3,4 dicarboxyphenyl) ether dianhydride, (ODPA); 3,3',4,4' diphenyl tetracarboxylic

acid dianhydride (BPDA); 3,3',4,4' benzophenone tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride (BTDA). There may additionally be provided a suitable amount of 2,2-bis(3,4 dicarboxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane dianhydride (6FDA).

The polymers of the present invention are generally soluble (before heat treatment) in solvents such as dimethyl acetamide and are useful for forming thin films due to their excellent mechanical properties. Generally, the polymers of the present invention are characterized by a molecular weight measured by GPC of at least about 90,000 and a polydispersity of from about 1.7 to about 2.6.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The invention is discussed in detail below in connection with several examples. For purposes of brevity only, and not by way of limitation, terminology, measurements and procedures are now enumerated. Unless otherwise indicated, terms are used throughout as detailed below.

INHERENT VISCOSITY

The inherent viscosity of polymer samples was obtained by measuring the viscosity of the polymer solution and the solvent and the inherent viscosity (IV) was calculated from the following equation:

$$\text{Inherent Viscosity} = \frac{\text{Natural Logarithm} \left(\frac{\text{Viscosity of Polymer Solution}}{\text{Viscosity of Solvent}} \right)}{C}$$

where C is the concentration expressed in grams of polymer per 100 milliliters of solution. In all cases, inherent viscosity was measured using 0.5 grams of polymer or reaction mixture in 100 ml of dimethyl acetamide at 25 degrees Celsius.

MOLECULAR WEIGHT DATA

The molecular weight of the polymers, whether weight average molecular weight, M_w or number average molecular weight M_n , were measured by gel permeation chromatography (GPC) performed on dilute solutions of the polymer in tetrahydrofuran (THF). The actual apparatus employed consisted of a Waters (Millipore Corp.) programmable automatic sampler, vacuum pump, chromatography columns with heater, and a differential refractometer connected to a Shimadzu CR 30A data reduction system with accompanying software (version 1.1, Shimadzu part No. TN 22301309-91). The refractometer used was a Waters model 410 and four chromatography columns. 500 Angstrom, 1000 Angstrom, 10,000 Angstrom and 100,000 Angstrom (available from Waters) were connected in series. The system was calibrated using multiple available polystyrene standards ranging in molecular weight as follows:

Table 1

GPC CALIBRATION	
Calibration Standard (Polystyrene)	Mol. Wt.
1	470,000
2	170,000
3	68,000
4	34,500
5	9,200
6	3,200
7	1,250

The standards are essentially monodisperse, consisting substantially of a single molecular weight. With the system thus calibrated the weight average molecular weight M_w , the number average molecular weight M_n , and polydispersity, M_w/M_n , were obtained for polymers produced in accordance with the examples given hereinafter.

ELECTRICAL, THERMAL, MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

Glass transition temperatures (T_g) were determined by differential scanning calorimetry using a Perkin Elmer DSC-4 calorimeter operating at 20 °C/min, nitrogen atmosphere at 60cc/min. Glass transition temperature by this method is generally defined as the point of intersection of tangent lines about the point of first inflection of the heating curve of the polymer. Thermogravimetric analysis was performed with a Perkin Elmer 65-2 analyzer at 20 °C/min with an air rate of 80cc/min. TGA values given herein are for five percent weight loss; in other words, the temperature at which 5% weight loss is observed is reported.

Mechanical properties were measured in accordance with ASTM D-882-81 using an Instron model 4202 provided with a computer interface (Series IX, version 2.51 software). Cross head speed was set at 0.2 inch/minute and gauge length was two inches. Unless otherwise indicated, a one hundred pound load cell was used, sample width was 0.5 inches and tests were conducted at 75 °F with a relative humidity of fifty per cent.

REACTANTS

Monomers used in accordance with the examples which follow are preferably substantially analytically pure; for example, "electronic" grade 6FDA is preferable. This material contains more than 98.5% dianhydride, less than 1.5% of the corresponding monoanhydride-diacid and less than 0.1% of the corresponding tetra-acid. The 2,2'-bis(3,4-dicarboxy phenyl) hexafluoropropane dianhydride specified herein (6FDA) is available from Hoechst-Celanese Corporation, Route 202-206 North, Somerville, New Jersey 08876. Electronic grade dianhydride contains less than 10 ppm sodium, less than 5 ppm iron, less than 2 ppm cobalt and less than 2 ppm manganese, and has a melting point of 246.5 degrees Celsius. The BTDA utilized in the examples given hereinafter was a high purity polymer grade, 98.5% pure at a minimum with 1.5% monoanhydride and tetra acid at most with maximum ionic impurities of N_a , K and F_o of 0.6 ppm, 0.2 ppm and 1 ppm respectively. BPDA was obtained having an assay minimum of 99.5 per cent, maximum ionic impurities 1.4 ppm N_a , 1.4 ppm K, 1.5 ppm F_o . BTDA and BPDA specified above, i.e. high purity polymer grades, are available from Chriskev, of 5109 W. 111th Terrace, Leawood, Kansas. Likewise, the ODPA, greater than 99% pure was obtained from Occidental, 2801 Long Road, Grand Island New York.

Diamine utilized in accordance with the present invention is also preferably substantially analytically pure. To obtain the preferred purity of the diamines noted hereinafter, an available grade or synthesized grade of 2,2'-bis(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane or 2,2'-bis(3-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane is dis-

solved in aqueous hydrochloric acid and treated with activated charcoal stirred for thirty minutes and filtered. The treatment is repeated as necessary to remove color impurities. The aqueous solution obtained after repeated filtering is treated with ammonium hydroxide until the pH of the resulting slurry is about 9. The diamine slurry is then filtered and washed with de-ionized or distilled water to form a filter cake, which in turn is redissolved in methanol and clarified through a five micron or smaller filter. Subsequently, diamine is precipitated from the methanol solution by the addition of distilled or de-ionized water and washed, also with water. The moist diamine is dried overnight in a vacuum oven and contains less than 10 ppm iron, sodium and chloride ions. Further information concerning diamines may be found in copending application Serial No. 105,857 filed October 7, 1987, now U.S. Patent No. the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

EXAMPLE I

A 3 neck flask was fitted with a stirrer, condenser, ice water bath, thermometer and nitrogen atmosphere. To the flask, 334g (1.0 mole) of 2,2-bis(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane along with 1000 grams of freshly distilled N-methyl pyrrolidone (NMP) was charged. The mixture was agitated for several minutes at room temperature to get a clear, slightly yellow, solution. The solution was then cooled to slightly below room temperature (about 21°C) and 295.68 grams of BPDA was added portion wise in equal intervals and amounts over a period of about thirty minutes. Based on 99.5% purity, 295.68 grams of a commercially available high purity polymer grade of BPDA would be one mole. The addition of anhydride must be carefully executed while the reaction mixture is agitated gently so that the solution is maintained between 25 and 30 degrees Celsius. After BPDA addition, the beakers containing monomers were washed with an additional 1518 grams of NMP and the NMP and residual monomer was added to the reaction mixture to obtain a solution of twenty per cent non volatile concentration. The mixture, maintained at between at a uniform temperature between about 25 and 30 degrees Celsius, is agitated gently for about 14 hours and a sample of the polyamic acid formed is withdrawn for viscosity analysis. To the polymerized mixture, 801 grams of beta-picoline are added and fully dispersed. After the beta picoline 801 grams of acetic anhydride were subsequently added dropwise and the mixture is agitated gently for an additional twenty-two hours (also at 25-30°C, uniform temperature) to complete cyclization. The above process, and those described below, were all carried out in a dry nitrogen atmosphere and reactants are all added in portions so that undesirable effects are avoided. Likewise, it is important to keep the temperature of the reaction mixture suitably uniform in all steps; for example, if the temperature is allowed to elevate locally, even during cyclization, the reaction mixture may gel and not form suitable polymer.

The polymer formed as above was precipitated from solution in methanol by the addition of methanol to the reaction liquor, that is by reverse precipitation, using 2000 ml of methanol for every 500g of polymeric solution. The resulting polymer is then washed with additional fresh methanol. Properties of the polymer (after drying) and polyamic acid appear in Table 2.

EXAMPLE II

Following the procedure of Example I, the following materials were used:

334 grams 2,2-bis(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane

327.10 grams BTDA

2644.4 grams freshly distilled NMP

845 grams acetic anhydride

84.5 grams beta-picoline.

Reaction times and temperatures (approximate) appear below:

Reactant mixing in 1000g NMP:	25 minutes
Polymerization time at 20 per cent concentration:	15 hours
Polymerization temperature:	20-25 °C
Cyclization time:	23 hours
Cyclization temperature:	25-30 °C

Data on the polymer and intermediate polyamid acid appears in Table 2.

EXAMPLE III

Following the procedure of Example I, the following materials were used:

334g of 2,2-bis(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane

310 grams ODPA

2576 grams freshly distilled NMP

850 grams acetic anhydride

95.0 grams beta picoline

Reaction times and temperatures are given below:

Reactant mixing in 1000g NMP:	20 minutes
Polymerization time at 20 per cent concentration:	15 hours
Polymerization temperature:	20 - 25 °C
Cyclization time:	24 hours
Cyclization temperature:	25 - 30 °C

After the polyamic acid was formed, the reaction mixture was extremely viscous to the point where it could not be stirred. Data on the polymer and intermediate polyamic acid appears in Table 2.

EXAMPLES IV - VI

Additional polyimides were prepared in accordance with Example I utilizing mixtures of dianhydrides with 2,2'-bis-(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane. Procedure followed was otherwise substantially identical, although a smaller batch size was used and the dianhydrides were blended before being added to the diamine.

In Example IV, the following materials were utilized to make the polymer:

36.8 grams 2,2'-bis(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane

31.06 grams ODPA

29.67 grams BPDA

510.2 grams NMP

156.3 grams acetic anhydride

15.63 grams beta-picoline

Times and temperatures of the various steps of Example IV appear below:

Reactant mixing in 200g NMP:	15 minutes
Polymerization time at 20 per cent concentration:	15 hours
Polymerization temperature:	30 °C
Cyclization time:	2 hours
Cyclization temperature:	30 °C

In this Example IV the reactants were mixed at about 23° C where the temperature was maintained during the initial mixing (or polymerization initiation) step.

Example V was substantially identical to Example IV except that the following materials were used:
66.8 grams 2,2'-bis(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane

- 5 31.06 grams ODPA
- 32.71 grams BTDA
- 522.28 grams NMP
- 160.2 grams acetic anhydride
- 16.02 grams beta-picoline

10 Example VI was substantially identical to Example V, and the following materials were employed:

- 33.3 grams 6FDA
- 50.1 grams 2,2'-bis(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane
- 23.25 grams ODPA
- 426.6 grams NMP
- 15 96.65 grams acetic anhydride
- 9.67 grams beta-picoline.

The reaction time was slightly longer, however, than in Example V.

Data relating to the polymer produced by way of Examples IV through VI appears in Table 2.

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FILM PREPARATION

25 Films were prepared from polymers prepared as in Examples I through VI by dissolving twenty five grams of solid, granular polymer in one hundred grams of 70/30 gamma-butyrolactone:diglyme mixture to achieve a colorless, clear solution of twenty percent N.V. concentration. Films were then cast on a clean glass plate by spreading the solution with a doctor's blade, followed by heating in an air circulating oven with the following heating sequence:

- 2 hrs. @ 70° C
- 30 1.5 hrs. @ 100° C
- 1.0 hr. @ 150° C
- 0.5 hr. @ 200° C
- 0.5 hr. @ 250° C
- 1.0 hr. @ 350° C

35 Data on mechanical properties appears in Table 3 below, as well as heat aging data on the powdered polymer. In all cases the film tested was substantially solvent free, having a solvent content of less than two per cent.

In all cases, the film was flexible and non-brittle. Films exhibiting elongation at break greater than about 10 per cent for example are useful in electronic multilayer structures, for example, an electronic laminate
40 employing films of the present invention should be extremely durable. All films were soluble in NMP, methylene chloride, and methyl ethyl ketone and exhibited low color. The films of Examples 3 and 6 were substantially colorless, while the other films exhibited either pale yellow or amber color.

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SOLVENT AGING

The polymers of Examples I through VI were formed into thin films on silicon wafers and heat treated at 350° C for two hours before being placed in methyl ethyl ketone. Solvent aging data at room temperature
50 and 70° C appears in Table 4 below.

In addition to the above Examples, polymer was prepared using essentially the same procedure and equimolar amounts of 2,2'-bis-(3-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane and ODPA to yield polymer with a

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TABLE 2

POLYMER MOLECULAR WEIGHT INHERENT VISCOSITY AND THERMAL PROPERTIES							
Example	Polyamic Acid IV	Polyimide M_w	Polyimide M_n	Polyimide Polydispersity	Polyimide IV	Polyimide Tg °C	Polyimide TGA, 5% wt. loss °C
I	1.19	147,300	69,700	2.1	1.0	355	540
II	1.15	95,000	32,700	1.7	0.73	307	535
III	1.35	117,000	47,000	2.4	1.1	308	540
IV	1.03	159,174	67,513	2.4	0.95	328	525
V	0.99	149,212	78,216	1.9	0.82	310	540
VI	0.92	129,425	50,076	2.6	0.8	311	562

Table 3

Polyimides & Copolyimides Based on 4,4'-6F-Diamine Thermal and Mechanical Properties of Films (2 Thousandths of an inch in thickness)						
Polyimide of Example	DSC Tg °C	TGA 5% Weight Loss at °C	Mechanical Properties by Instron			Wt Loss ¹ at 343 °C after 235 hrs %
			Elongation %	Stress at Break psi	Young's Modulus Ksi	
I	355	540	22	18,000	390	3.2
II	307	535	10	15,000	380	3.4
III	307	540	10	14,300	294	3.4
IV	328	525	9	14,000	321	2.4
V	310	540	8	13,000	297	3.1
VI	311	562	9	13,000	270	1.9

¹POWDERED POLYMER

Table 4

SOLVENT AGING OF THERMALLY CURED POLYIMIDES		
	THERMALLY CURED (350 °C/2 Hrs.) film on wafer	
POLYIMIDE OF EXAMPLE	PERCENT WEIGHT LOSS	
	MEK/R.T. 30 min.	MEK/70 °C 30 min.
I	no loss	0.5
II	0.9	0.9
III	no loss	no loss
IV	0.4	no loss
V	1.8	2.8
VI	0.5	0.6

glass transition temperature of 231 °C and a TGA value (5% loss) of 530 °C. Polymer data was as follows:

Polyamic Acid IV (dl/gm)	0.83
Polyimide IV (dl/gm)	0.65
Molecular Weight of Polyimide	
M _w	93,092
M _n	42,495
Polydispersity	2.1

Further, a two mil film of the 2,2'-bis(3-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane - ODPa material had the following mechanical properties:

Tensile Strength (PSI)	16 470
Tensile Modulus (KSI)	433
Elongation at Break (%)	4.95

The invention has been described in detail hereinabove with respect to several embodiments and accordingly, further explanation, data and examples is deemed unnecessary. Various modifications will be obvious to those of ordinary skill in the art; which modifications are within the spirit and scope of the present invention which is limited only by the appended claims.

Claims

1. A high molecular weight polyimide condensation product composition produced from a diamine selected from the group consisting of 2,2'-bis(3-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane and 2,2'-bis(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane and an equimolar amount of dianhydride consisting essentially of a compound or mixture selected from the group consisting of bis-(3,4 dicarboxyphenyl) ether dianhydride.

3,3', 4,4' diphenyl tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride, 2,2'-bis(3,4 dicarboxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane dianhydride and 3,3', 4,4' benzophenone tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride wherein said polyimide has a molecular weight of at least about 90,000 and a polydispersity of from about 1.7 to about 2.6

2. The composition according to claim 1, wherein the polydispersity of said composition is from about 1.9 to about 2.4.

3. The composition according to claim 2, wherein the polydispersity of said composition is about 2.2.

4. The composition according to claim 1, wherein the molecular weight of said composition is at least about 120,000.

5. The composition according to claim 4, wherein the molecular weight of said composition is at least about 150,000.

6. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said dianhydride component consists essentially of bis-(3,4 dicarboxyphenyl) ether dianhydride.

7. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said dianhydride component consists essentially of 3,3', 4,4' diphenyl tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride.

8. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said dianhydride component consists essentially of 3,3', 4,4' benzophenone tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride.

9. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said dianhydride component consists of an equimolar mixture of two of said dianhydrides.

10. The composition according to claim 1 in the form of a film affixed to a substrate.

11. A polymer film consisting essentially of a high molecular weight polyimide condensation product: composition produced from a diamine selected from the group consisting of 2,2'-bis(3-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane and 2,2'-bis(4-aminophenyl) hexafluoropropane and an equimolar amount of dianhydride consisting essentially of a compound or mixture selected from the group consisting of bis-(3,4 dicarboxyphenyl) ether dianhydride, 3,3', 4,4' diphenyl tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride, 2,2'-bis(3,4 dicarboxyphenyl) hexafluoropropane dianhydride and 3,3', 4,4' benzophenone tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride wherein said polyimide has a molecular weight of at least about 90,000 and a polydispersity of from about 1.7 to about 2.6

12. The polymer film according to claim 11, wherein the polydispersity of said composition is from about 1.9 to about 2.4.

13. The polymer film according to claim 12, wherein the polydispersity of said composition is about 2.2.

14. The polymer film according to claim 11, wherein the molecular weight of said composition is at least about 120,000.

15. The polymer film according to claim 14, wherein the molecular weight of said composition is at least about 150,000.

16. The polymer film according to claim 11, wherein said dianhydride component consists essentially of bis-(3,4 dicarboxyphenyl) ether dianhydride.

17. The polymer film according to claim 11, wherein said dianhydride component consists essentially of 3,3', 4,4' diphenyl tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride.

18. The polymer film according to claim 11, wherein said dianhydride component consists essentially of 3,3', 4,4' benzophenone tetracarboxylic acid dianhydride.

19. The polymer film according to claim 11, wherein said dianhydride component consists of an equimolar mixture of two of said dianhydrides.

20. The polymer film according to claim 11, wherein the elongation at break of said film is at least about 10 per cent.



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 89 11 2540

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
X	WO-A-8 402 529 (HUGHES AIRCRAFT COMPANY) * page 5, line 15 - page 7, line 15 * ---	1-5,10-15,20	C 08 G 73/10 C 08 J 5/18
P,X	US-A-4 803 147 (W. H. MUELLER et al.) * examples 1-24 * ---	1-20	
D,X	US-A-4 645 824 (A. L. LANDIS et al.) * claim 13; column 4, lines 64-66 * ---	1-3,10-13	
D,X	US-A-3 356 648 (F. ROGERS) * claims; examples * ---	1-20	
A	US-A-4 588 804 (M. FRYD) * claims; column 5, lines 45-59 * -----	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			C 08 G 73/00 C 08 J 5/00
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 15-11-1989	Examiner BOEKER R.B.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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